dpi notes

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

ISSUE No. 13, OCTOBER 1991

UN DAY PRIZES

At 2:50 pm on UN Day, 24 October, in the General Assembly Public Lobby, Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar will make a rare personal apperance at a ceremony for visitors to UN Headquarters. The Secretary-General will make a brief statement and the event will include performances by the UN Singers and an Andean musical group.

Throughout UN Day, visitors to Headquarters will be presented by the DPI Public Services Section with a blue and white UN souvenir button. A thousand visitors who find lucky stickers on the back of their buttons will be awarded prizes, including complimentary meals in neighborhood restaurants. The gifts have been donated by the Beekman Tower Hotel, Restaurant Associates, UNICEF, the UN Gift Centre, the UN Bookshop and the UN Postal Administration.

UN DAY BRIEFING

In the morning of UN Day, DPI will focus its weekly NGO briefing on women's issues. Panelists Sharon Capeling-Alakija, fund director of UNIFEM, and Joan Martin-Brown, of the UNEP/Global Assembly on Women and the Environment, will discuss the topic: "Our World, Our Women: Sustaining Our Common Future." Farouk Mawlawi, Chief of DPI's NGO Section, will serve as the panel's moderator.

In the afternoon, DPI will host a panel on: "Sex Stereotyping in the Media." Panelists for the event are: Robin Morgan, editor of *MS.* magazine; Raghida Dergham, UN correspondent of *Al-Hayat* and *Radio Orient*, and Gwen Konie, publisher of *Woman's Exclusive* of Zambia. DPI Director Joe Sills will act as moderator.

UNITED NATIONS

UN DAY CONCERT

On the evening of 24 October, the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra conducted by Kazuyoshi Akiyama will perform the annual UN Day concert before delegates, staff and distinguished guests in the General Assembly Hall. The programme, which features violinist Yuzoko Horigome, will consist of "Litania pour Fuji" by Akira Miyoshi, "Concerto No.1 in G Minor for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 26" by Max Bruch and "Suite from Der Rosenkavalier" by Richard Strauss.

The Tokyo Symphony Orchestra was founded by conductors Hidemaro Knoe, Masashi Ueda and Manfred Gurlitt in 1946 with a mandate to perform new music. Since then it has premiered over 100 works by Japanese and foreign composers.

UN INFORMATION FAIR

For the last two weeks of October, the 1991 UN Information Fair—an exhibit promoting the work of the Specialized Agencies, Programmes and Departments of the UN system — will be on view in the General Assembly Public Lobby.

The number of information kiosks included in the display has been increased this year to 23, up from 15 last year. Each booth will be staffed by a representative of the UN organization it represents, who will be able to answer visitors' questions.

It is estimated by the Public Services Section that 22,500 visitors will see the fair before the end of the month.

PALAIS DES NATIONS VISITORS

UNIS GENEVA last month welcomed the 100,000th visitor to UNIS: Michel Van Eeckbrudt, a retired businessman from Blanken-

beye, Belgium. At a ceremony hosted by the UNIS Director-General, Mr. Blankenbeye was presented with a UN watch, a gift volume on the Palais des Nations, literature on the activities of the Organization and a collection of UN stamps.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY

Many UN Information Centres informed Headquarters this year that they organized extensive programmes this year to mark International Peace Day, 17 September.

UNIC LUSAKA reports that on Peace Day, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda presided at a commemorative meeting ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the death of former Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold. In the ceremony attended by officials and UNIC staff, President Kaunda unveiled a bronze bust of Mr. Hammarskjold donated by the Swedish Government. The ceremony also marked the sacrifice of seven other UN staff members and the six-man crew who lost their lives when their DC-6 crashed in Zambia on a UN peace mission.

UNIC Manila reports it coordinated celebration of Peace Toys Week (7-14 September), proclaimed by President Corazon Aquino to raise public awareness of the ill effects of war toys on children.

UNIC BOGOTA reports that, with the Presidential Councils for Human Rights and Peace Affairs and other NGOs, it organized a concert and readings at the Plaza de Bolivar on 17 September. At the event, Colombian poet, Juan Manuel Roca, read his most recent poem entitled, *War Shall Rest in Peace;* the UNIC Director read the Secretary-General's message for the Day, and the audience lit candles for peace. In advance of the day, the Centre co-produced with the Colombian media a TV spot and radio message advertising the programme.

In a ceremony at the Bandung National Monument Park, the Director of **UNIC Jakarta** presented the Mayor of Bandung with a Peace Certificate, signifying the UN's designation of the city of Bandung as a "messenger of peace" in recognition of the peace campaign Bandung began when it hosted the Asian-African Conference in 1955.

ONUSAL-EL SALVADOR

As part of DPI's ongoing programme to publicize the UN'S ONUSAL-EL Salvador efforts, DPI recently produced a radio programme examining the UN's monitoring of the human rights situation in El Salvador. The programme will be part of DPI's *Perspective* radio series which is distributed worldwide. The Department also produced a second series of 10 radio spots to be broadcast in El Salvador.

DPI is also planning the format for a weekly 30-minute TV programme to be produced in El Salvador for airing from November through January.

PALESTINE

DPI has scheduled a two-week news mission to the Middle East to begin on 30 October for journalists from *Berliner Zeitung* (Germany), *Il Corriere della Sera*, (Italy), *The Guardian* (UK), *The Irish Times* (Ireland), *Messimvrini* (Greece), *Le Monde* (France), *Politiken* (Denmark), *Público* (Portugal), *Le Soir* (Belgium), *Helsingin Sanomat* (Finland), *El Pais* (Spain)and *Trouw* (Netherlands). The mission, aimed at helping journalists better understand the facts of the question of Palestine, will travel to Tunisia, Syria, Jordan and Egypt.

AGEING

In connection with observance of the International Day for the Elderly (3 October), DPI recently produced a TV feature focused on aging, as part of its *UN in Action* series. The feature was broadcast by CNN and

distributed to other broadcasters through the UNIC system. DPI also cooperated in preparation of an NGO briefing on the elderly on 3 October.

LITERACY

UNIC LOME reports it promoted Literacy Day with a press briefing on the UN's effort in that area. *La Nouvelle Marche*, the country's official newspaper, covered the briefing in a half-page article, and the national radio produced a documentary to mark the day.

UNIC DHAKA reports it worked with the Government of Bangladesh this year to mark International Literacy Day, 8 September, with three events. At the first, the Bangladesh Minister of Education and UNICEF and UNDP representatives addressed a large audience of NGOs on the initiatives undertaken by the Government to free the country from illiteracy. That meeting was followed by an event organized by an NGO, the Dhaka Ahsana Mission, and the UNIC, at which the State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources, discussed the Government's compulsory primary education. The third event was a seminar, organized by the International Pen Pals Club in cooperation with the Centre, at which the Bangladesh Education Secretary, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, the Chairman of the Public Service Commission and the Chairman of the State-owned news agency discussed the effects of poverty, hunger and malnutrition on literacy programmes.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL

USG Sévigny told a University of Montreal audience this month that a recent DPI public opinion poll showed that 90 per cent of Canadians surveyed have some knowledge of the United Nations. Positive though that figure was, the Under-Secretary-General said she found it "worrying" that, on the other hand, most of the respondents lacked specific knowledge about the UN system.

In her opinion, Mrs. Sévigny said, mandatory teaching about the United Nations should be reintegrated into the curricula at secondary and university levels. "Such a measure would allow our population to develop a consciousness as part of the international community," she said. At the same time, she added, it would strengthen the NGO community with the ultimate result that NGO voices would better heard in international panels. ■

LOOKING AHEAD

INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS (1992-1993): The United Nations will participate in two major International expositions in 1992, both focused on the Quincentennial celebrations of the voyages of explorations of Christopher Columbus.

For these two expositions, the Seville Exposition in Spain (20 April-12 October 1992) and the Genoa Exposition in Italy (15 May-15 August 1992), UN pavilions have already been constructed, and the process of creating and installing the exhibitry is now underway.

The Secretary-General has also given agreement in principle for UN participation in the Taejon Exposition in the Republic of Korea (7 August-7 November 1993). The central theme of that exposition is "The Challenge of a New Road to Development". DPI will be the lead agency in the project, and USG Sévigny has named Director F. Lwanyantika Masha as Coordinator of the project.

READEX FICHE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PUBLIC LOBBY EXHIBITIONS (November 1992): DPI's Communications Services Section is in the process of creating a major exhibition commemorating the 40th anniversary of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, for display in the General Assembly Public Lobby during November. Mrs. Sadako Ogata, UN High Commissioner, will open the exhibit on 6 November.

AFRICA RECOVERY (1991): The Africa Recovery office is working on a series of Briefing Papers which will look in-depth at key issues affecting the continent. A review of the economic impact of a majority-ruled South Africa on the southern African region is due for publication in November. Written by two academics, the paper puts forward a number of possible scenarios for economic interaction. Also in the pipeline are papers on food security in Africa, on environmental issues, on regional integration and on privatization and investment.

WORLD MEDIA HANDBOOK (1992): DPI plans publication of the second edition of its *World Media Handbook* early in the new year. The handbook will bring together data supplied by the UN's 67 Information Offices and other sources to provide a concise summary of media activities in a wide range of countries.

ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION CAMPAIGN (Aug.1991-July 1992): In advance of Earth Summit, the UN Conference on Environment and Development, scheduled for Brazil in 1992, DPI is launching a major information campaign.

For secondary schools, DPI and North-South Productions of London are producing an 18-minute educational video and teaching guide on environment and development which will be available in January. Shooting has already been completed in Thailand and Poland. For local tv stations worldwide, DPI is co-producing with World Television News (WTN) six short TV items covering major subjects on the Summit agenda. These shorts will be distributed in March 1992. For TV stations worldwide, the Department is producing a series of video spots promoting the conference and highlighting the UN'S work in sustainable development. The spots are scheduled for distribution in April 1992. For dissemination through UN Information Centres, DPI and UNEP are contributing support to a series of half-hour videos planned to offer a Third World perspective on environment and development. The videos, to be produced by the BBC and the Television Trust for the Environment, will be released in July 1992. Throughout the year, segments of *UN in Action*, DPI's three-minute video feature will cover environmental topics.

DPI radio producers plan to include coverage of the Summit's issues in their daily news feeds, and in *Scope*, a programme with a magazine format and *Perspectives*, a programme with a documentary format.

Print products planned or under production by DPI for the campaign include: a press kit for April 1991 distribution. A series of background articles on the environment, under the title *Earth Summit in Focus*, and a special edition of *Notes for Speakers*, DPI's briefing book for speakers on UN issues, have already been published.

As part of the campaign, DPI recently published the 1991 issue of its 4-page tabloid-size student leaflet on UN themes, which focuses solely on environment and development. The publication includes a world map, message from the Secretary-General, a picture layout, a world population chart and some suggestions for classroom activities. ■

WHAT'S NEW AND AVAILABLE

Unless otherwise noted, all DPI information products are available through the DPI Dissemination Division, Room S-0260D, United Nations, NY 10017. Telephone: 212-963-1258.

BOOKLETS AND BROCHURES

Earth Summit. A brochure on the UN Conference on Environment and Development—Earth Summit '92. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian. DPI/1118.

International Decade For Natural Disaster Reduction. An introduction to the UN effort to stem the world's losses from natural disasters. English, French and Spanish. DPI/1078.

The Singapore Symposium:The Changing Role of the United Nations in Conflict Resolution and Peace-Keeping (13-15-March 1991). Views of 63 experts. 85 pages. English. DPI/1141.

Environment and Development. A four-sided, tabloid-size leaflet for students on the issue of environment and development. It contains a world map, message from the Secretary-General, picture spread, world population chart and suggestions for student activities. English, French, Spanish, Portuguese. DPI/1123.

REFERENCE PAPERS

The 1991 DPI/NGO Conference on Peace, Justice and Development: Ingredients for an Emerging World Order (11-13 September 1991). Summary Report. English only. *Available from the NGO Resource Centre, Rm. S-101, United Nations, NY 10017.*

Notes for Speakers. In anticipation of Earth Summit '92—the UN Conference on Environment and Development—the latest edition of DPI's series of background notes for speakers focuses exclusively on the issues of environment and development. Currently available in English only. DPI/1183.

Special Commission to Supervise Destruction of Iraq's Chemical, Biological and Nuclear Weapons. A look at the commission set up in conformity with Security Council resolution 687 (1991). English. PS/DPI/2.

United Nations Security Council. An introduction to how the Council works and what it has done. English. PS/DPI/4.

ONUSAL—El Salvador. Press kit on the peace process in El Salvador and the United Nations, the Mexico Agreements and the San Jose Agreement on Human Rights. English, French and Spanish. DPI/1149.

FACT SHEETS

UNIKOM. The UN Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission. English. PS/DPI/3.
UNAVEM II. The UN Angola Verification Mission. English. PS/DPI/5.
UNTSO. The UN Truce Supervision Organization. English. PS/DPI/6.
UNIFIL. The UN Interim Force in Lebanon. Fact sheet. PS/DPI/8.
UNMOGIP. The UN India-Pakistan Observation Mission. English. PS/DPI/9.
UNFICYP. The UN Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus. English. PS/DPI/10.
ONUCA. The UN Observer Group in Central America. English. PS/DPI/11.

VIDEOS

UN IN Action. Ten three-minute features on environment and development available on a 30-minute tape. *Contact: Distribution Officer, Room S-805A, DPI, United Nations, NY 10017. Fax: 212-963-4642.*

SPEECHES BY USG/DPI

Texts of addresses by USG Thérèse P. Sévigny are available from her office, Rm. S-1027A, United Nations, NY 10017. The following are recent speeches:

Address at the Presentation of the Annual Inter Press Service Award to Madame Danielle Mitterand. New York, 20 September 1991. English.

The United Nations: New Perspectives in the Relationship between Sovereignty and Globalization of Issues. 21st August-Frigon Conference. Montreal, 10 October 1991. Available in French and English.

Le rôle de la communication dans le monde d'aujourd'hui: Alerter pour mieux sensibiliser. Colloque international "Au-delà des cultures; des outils à partager". L'Association pour la santé publique du Québec. Montréal, le 11 octobre 1991. French.

FEATURES AND BACKGROUNDERS

Trekking to the Summit: Now Comes the Hard Part. Earth Summit in Focus Series. Analysis of the problems facing the Brazil conference. English, French, Spanish. DPI/1147.

Midnight at Mid-Morning. UN Focus Series backgrounder on the scope and nature of the damage inflicted on Kuwait's infrastructure during the Iraqi occupation. Based on a UN report. English, French, Spanish. DPI/1158.

The Specialists Who Monitor Human Rights. UN Focus Series feature. A look at the work of the judges, professors, members of parliament appointed by the UN Commission on Human Rights. English, French, Spanish. DPI/1155.

The Trade of Shame: The Sale of Children. UN Focus Series backgrounder. UN efforts to stop sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. English, French, Spanish. DPI/1156.

The United Nations and International Law. UN Focus Series backgrounder. The development of a vast body of international law by the UN system over the past four decades. English only. DPI/1124.

The '92 Process: The United Nations Prepares for the Earth Summit. Earth Summit in Focus Series. Review of preparations for the conference. English, French, Spanish. DPI/1160.

Transferring Technology for Environmentally-Sustainable Development. Earth Summit in Focus Series. Backgrounder on a major issue leaders will face at the Earth Summit conference. English, French, Spanish. DPI/1161.

BOOKS

In Cooperation With External Publishers -
L'Ultimo Mare—Lo Stato Dell'Ambiente Marino del Mediterraneo. Italian translation of UNEP's series **State of the Marine Environment in the Mediterranean Region.** 1990. 215 pages. Softcover. ISBN 88-7802-168-7. Available in Italian, free of charge, from: Centro Italiano, Servizio Informativo Ambienti Costieri, Petrasanta LU.

Consequences of Rapid Population Growth in Developing Countries. Findings of a symposium organized by the Population Division of the UN Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Institut national d'études démographiques (INED). 1991. 379 pages. English. Hardcover US$45.00. ISBN 0-8448-1566-7. Available from: Taylor & Francis, Bristol, PA. ■

DPI NOTES is published by the Department of Public Information/CPMD. CPMD, Communications Services Section, S-900C, United Nations, NY 10017

Not an official record

□